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TIC 4905-14

Country: UK

Subject: Dorset Refueling Trucks for BOAC Comets

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Place Acquired:



25X1A6a

Date Acquired:

Date of Info: Early May 53

25X1X6

Source:

- 1. When the British Overseas Aviation Corporation (BOAC) opened its Comet service to Tokyo, matched pairs of a new type refueling truck were used at landing points along the route. The Shell Company designed these trucks, which are known as Dorsets. They were built in collaboration with the UK firms of Thompson Bros. Ltd., and Leyland Motors Ltd..
- 2. In normal operation, two Dorset refuelers used simultaneously are capable of delivering up to 6,600 US gallons or approximately 20 tons of fuel to a Comet in just under 20 minutes. Each Dorset has a fuel capacity of 3,600 US gallons, which can be delivered either by conventional over-wing refueling or by under-wing pressure refueling. By the latter method the rate of delivery exceeds 200 gallons a minute.
- 3. Actual performance has proved that the Dorset refueler surpasses its own specifications. It has delivered over 350 gallons a minute through two 2-inch hoses. Using two Dorsets and the under-wing pressure-refueling connection it is possible to pump 6,000 gallons of fuel into the tanks of a Comet airliner within 15 minutes.
- 4. The Dorset equipment is designed for use in both tropical and sub-zero temperatures. It is capable of self-loading by means of its own pumps. All fuel thus loaded passes through micro-filters which remove any moisture or solid particles which might contaminate the fuel.

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